

cera are recognisable from Dale's descriptions, and other characterisations are now being studied so that an analysis of the manuscript can be included in a forthcoming contribution on the role of Samuel Dale in the history of British entomology. — R. S. WILKINSON, The American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York 10024.

AGONOPTERIX ASTRANTIAE (HEINEMANN) IN NORTH WALES IN 1981 — Further to my paper on *Oecophoridae* (*Ent. Rec.*, **93**:60) and that of Heckford and Langmaid. (*Ent. Rec.* **93**, 100), I found three larvae on *Sanicula* on 22nd June in mixed deciduous woods on carboniferous limestone near Llandudno (VC 49). Two were almost full fed and spun up in the tissue paper provided within five days; the third larva also well grown produced a parasite. All larvae were in the spun edge of a leaf rolled upwards as described by Heckford and Langmaid and there were signs of spinning and feeding on nearby leaves on the same or adjacent plants. In the breeding box, while the larvae remained in their original folds in daytime, other leaves were eaten and frass scattered in the box; this suggests feeding at night. Many vacated leaf folds were examined over a wide area on 22nd June suggesting that an earlier search might be more productive. As most larval spinnings were widely spaced, egg-laying may be a travelling chore in contrast to such *Agonopterix* as *heracliana* (L.), *subpropinquella* (Stainton) and *alstroemeriana* (Clerck) where a number of larvae may be found on one plant.

The moths emerged on 21st and 23rd July, and using a bee smoker on 8th August when the leaves on *Sanicula* were hidden by a strong growth of Dog's Mercury (*Mercurialis*) and Enchanter's Nightshade (*Circaea*), two faded moths were disturbed; a search with a hand lamp in another wood a week later was unsuccessful. Clearly this species has been long established in North Wales and all records from VC 49/50 and the single record from Yorkshire have come from mixed woods on limestone, for *Sanicula europaea* is mainly a calcareous plant. Of the three Tortricid pupae found in similar folds in the leaves, two were *Tortrix viridana* (L.) from oak and one was *Olindia schumacherana* (F.) which probably came from adjacent *Mercurialis* and *Circaea*; while uncertain of the *Olindia*, clearly the *Tortrix* has a labour saving purpose in using a ready made puparium. — H. N. MICHAELIS, 5 Glan y Mor, Glan Conwy, Colwyn Bay LL28 5TA.

DANAUS PLEXIPPUS L.: THE MONARCH IN WALES AND CUMBERLAND IN 1981. — A single specimen was seen and caught on 25th September on the West Cumbrian coast a few hundred yards north of Sellafield railway station. This appears to be the first record of the species for Cumberland. The insect, a female, is now in the possession of Mr. R. Savory, of Millom, but was caught by Mr. F. Downton, of Egremont.

On October 4th, my friend Dr. P. I. Clark was on holiday at Penmaenpool, near Dollgellau, Merioneth, and saw a single specimen flying round the garden for several minutes. — D. W. KYDD, "Gilgar-ran", 6 Yewbarrow Road, Ulverston, Cumbria LA12 9JS.